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Docket No.: 50099-169

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of

Yasuhito SHIRAISHI

Application No.: 09/828,984

Filed: April 10, 2001

: Customer Number: 20277
:
: Confirmation Number: 7160
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: Group Art Unit: 2626
:
: Examiner: Beniyam Menberu
:

For: METHOD OF AND DEVICE FOR MANAGING PRINT COLORS, AND IMAGE DATA
PROCESSING DEVICE

LETTER TO THE EXAMINER

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This letter is filed in response to Examiner's assertions that "Cooperation for Integration of Prepress, Press and Postpress" did not have an English Translation in the Office Action dated November 4, 2004. It is noted that the Examiner has already considered this reference, as indicated by the initials on the PTO-1449 form filed August 7, 2002.

For the Examiner's convenience, and to ensure the completeness of the United States Patent and Trademark Office's files, an English Translation of "Cooperation for Integration of Prepress, Press and Postpress" is enclosed.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

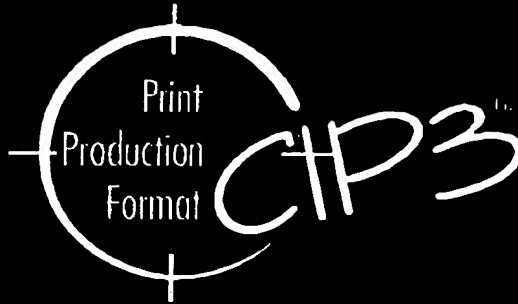
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**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277 as
our correspondence address.**

SCREEN



WORKFLOW

**Cooperation for
Integration of
Prepress, Press, and Postpress**

Prepress Press Postpress

Integrating all stages of the print production process with CIP3 PPF

With each stage of the print production process going digital, greater efficiency should be forthcoming if digital data can be shared between each stage—prepress, press, and postpress. The organization that has emerged to help bring about this integration is called CIP3 (sip-three), International Cooperation for Integration of Prepress, Press, and Postpress.

CIP3 is a cooperative effort by graphic arts equipment manufacturers worldwide to standardize the form of digital information in order to achieve this integration. The effort was spearheaded by Germany's Fraunhofer Institute for Computer Graphics, and was announced at DRUPA '95. Today, 34 major graphic arts equipment manufacturers worldwide belong to the consortium.

CIP3 has created a standard format, called PPF (Print Production Format), to serve as an interface between the different production stages. It was designed to raise efficiency throughout the print production process by facilitating the seamless integration of platemaking, printing, folding, cutting, and binding stages.

As a member since CIP3's inception, Dainippon Screen continues to be an active contributor. The comprehensive TaigaSPACE workflow system's CIP3 Output software outputs PPF image data that can be used to control ink keys on press. In cooperation with several press manufacturers, Screen has jointly developed interface software that converts PPF data into a form suitable for each type of press. Using CIP3 PPF reduces press makeready times, and dramatically streamlines press set-up.

Enables efficient use of prepress data at each stage of production

PPF links different production processes. It can supply standard-format data based on the original prepress data. Set-up work for each device at each production stage, which is conventionally done piecemeal, can be integrated and automated.

By putting digital data in a standard format, many benefits accrue. The press's ink keys can be controlled automatically, press set-up time can be greatly shortened, and press operating time can be

Standard PPF ink area coverage data are supplied

Output-ready data

TaigaSPACE

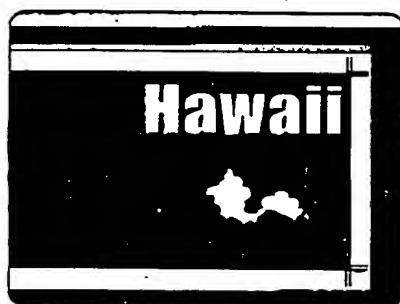
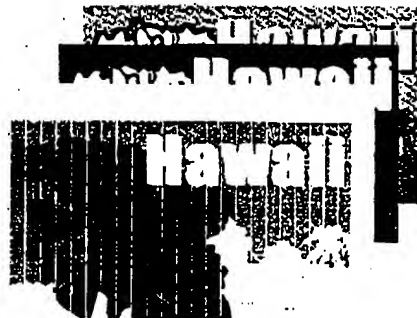
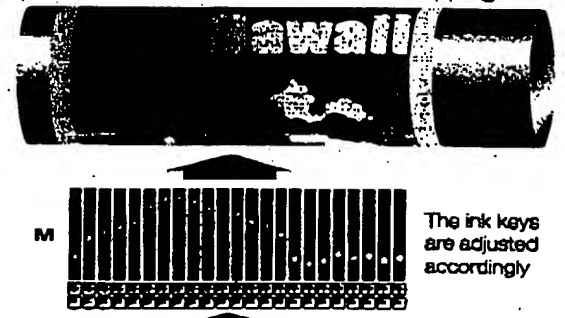


Image data analyzed to calculate ink area coverage values



Prepress



The ink keys are adjusted accordingly



Press

The press' ink control system receives the ink coverage data

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Advantages of CIP3

imized. By automating press set-up, consistent quality and the reduction of mistakes due to human error can be achieved. Full digitalization facilitates the transition to CIM (computer integrated manufacturing).

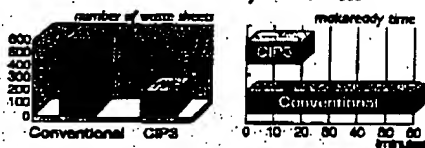
Automates ink-key setup

Because ink coverage data can be supplied through PPF, scanning plates as part of the press setup process is rendered unnecessary. By eliminating the need for plate scanning, PPF brings the

following benefits:

- Eliminates the need for operator intervention.
- Prevents plate damage and reduces waste sheets.
- Enables the provision of higher resolution data.
- Reduces makeready times.

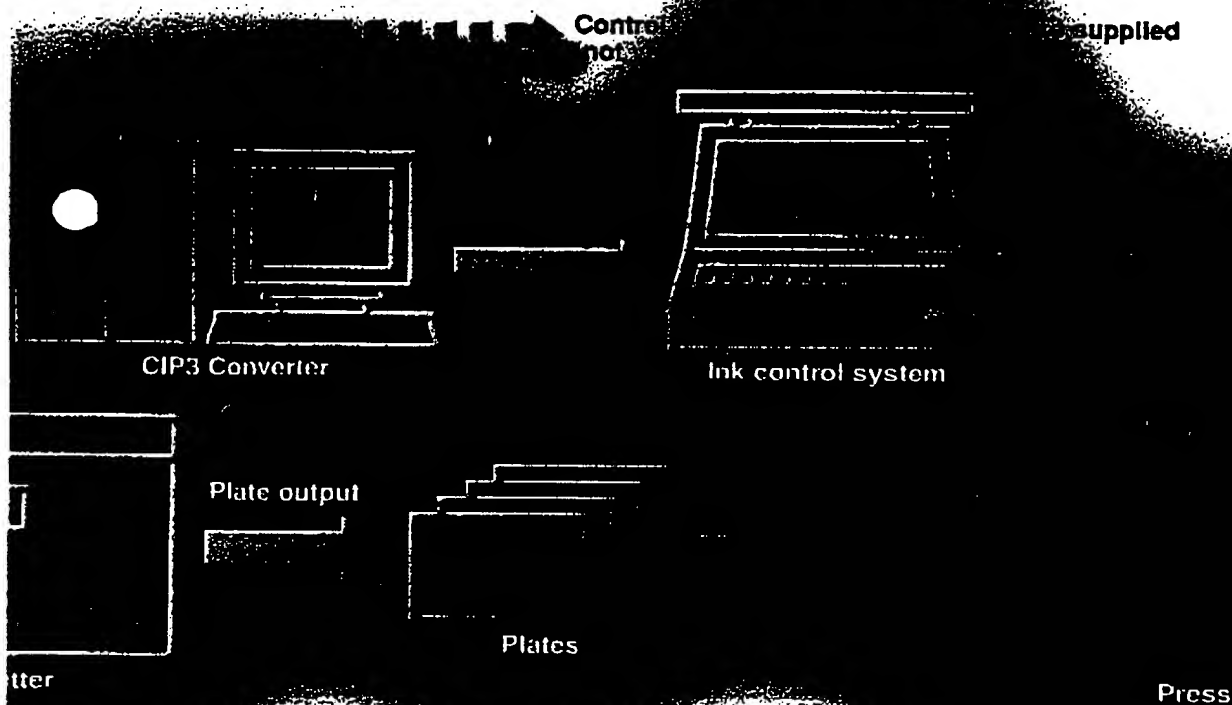
CTP3 benefits achieved by customers



- Enables quick production of an okay sheet.
- Makes the level of quality more consistent.
- Makes it possible for press set-up to proceed while plates are being output.

Powerfully supports CTP workflow

CIP3 can use output data from CTP systems. Because prepress work and press control can be carried out digitally, the operating efficiencies of CTP can be pushed even further, and the benefits CIP3 brings can be realized to the fullest.



What is PPF ?

CIP3 PPF was developed to serve as an international standard data format with the purpose of facilitating the sharing and efficient use of digital data throughout the print production process. As a common language among each major stage of print production—prepress, press, and postpress—it provides the following benefits:

Flexibility

Built on the PostScript language, CIP3 PPF is designed to take prepress data and use it to write control data for postpress devices such as presses, folders, and binders. Each manufacturer is able to customize PPF data, and to develop their interfaces.

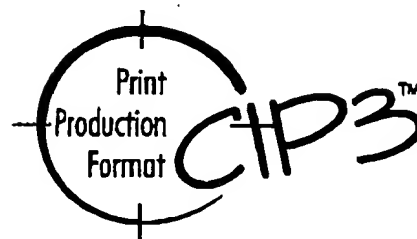
Data can be shared between devices from different manufacturers

For systems using PPF, the same data can be used for devices regardless of their manufacturer or model. And by using PPF data, each device can do its work faster and more accurately.

Growing and developing

Not only can ink area coverage data be included, but also information such as plate size, printing area, gripper-margin location and size, whether the job is simplex or duplex, and the location and type of register marks and color bars. Information for the postpress stage, such as processing procedure and folding and cutting positions, will be added to current PPF capabilities. In another coming PPF enhancement, PPF

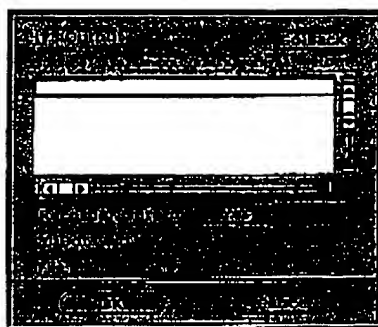
based on PDF data, in addition to the currently supported PostScript data will be made available (PPF Ver.3.0).



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Dainippon Screen's CIP3 support

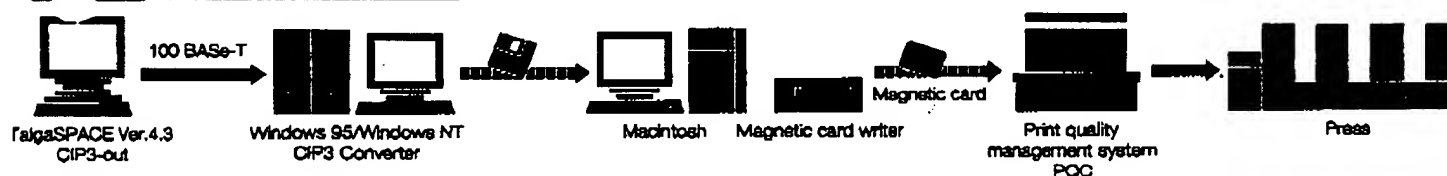
As a founding member of CIP3, Dainippon Screen actively promotes and contributes to this international standardization effort. For example, with the TaigaSPACE workflow system's CIP3 Output function, it is possible to output low-resolution PPF data, and use it for presetting ink keys. CIP3 workflows for the following presses have been tested and verified in operation:



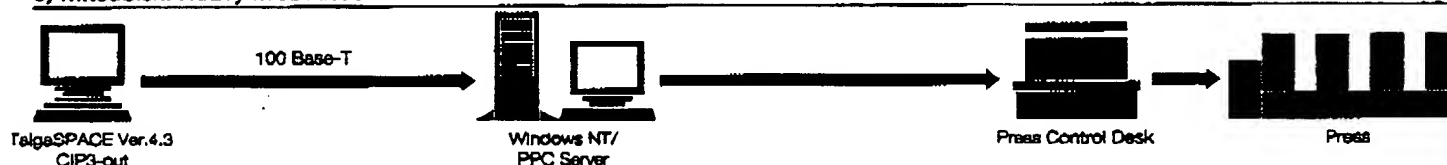
1) Heidelberg



2) Komori Corporation



3) Mitsubishi Heavy Industries



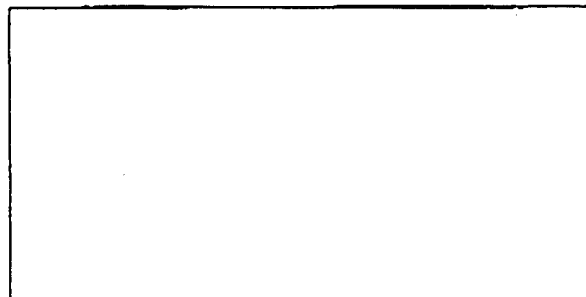
4) Shinohara Machinery Co. Ltd.



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 • Internet web site: <http://www.screen.co.jp/>

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